Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Mr. President, on a point of order, Sir, yesterday in your absence while voting on cut motion number 49 under Public Health, through which I had pressed upon the Government the desirability of opening health centres in rural areas in preference to towns, there arose a difficulty. When I demanded a poll, the Hon'ble the Deputy President, adopted the usual method of asking the ayes and noes to stand up in their seats and I insisted upon having the neutrals also registered. Then the Hon'ble the Deputy President asked the neutrals to stand up. The result was that he found himself helpless because those gentlemen who did not decide which way to vote did not stand up. They did not belong either to ayes or noes and they did not stand up when neutrals were asked to show themselves out. I should like to know whether that is a permissible procedure.

Mr. President.—What did the Deputy President do then?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—I insisted on having the names of neutrals registered. The Hon'ble Deputy President then asked them to stand up but they did not. I am sorry, Sir, that I have to make these observations on the Hon'ble the Deputy President. But, all the same, it is a point that arises for consideration and a ruling is necessary for future guidance.

Mr. President.—Any ruling given by the Chair either in the capacity of a President or a Deputy President is a ruling so that if any occasion arises again when the Chair has occasion to deal with such a situation, the Chair will makea ruling.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—I am afraid my point is not correctly understood. I raise a specific point of order whether it is open to the members to sit in their seats when the President calls upon them to stand up to see in which category they fall, Ayes, Noes or Neutrals.

Mr. President.—A point of order can be raised only when a situation arises.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (Contd.)

25—Public Health—Rs. 1,18,093 (Contd.)

Motion No. 51 (Contd.)

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Mr. President, Sir, I find myself in a most unfortunate position. I have to reply to a debate which generated very great heat

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